



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: June 23, 2026

DATE: June 3, 2026
TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Jennifer Hoekstra, Fiscal Compliance Officer
Community Services Dept., 328-2045, jhoekstra@washoecounty.gov
THROUGH: Samantha Turner, Division Director Finance and Customer Service,
Community Services Dept. 328-3600, sturner@washoecounty.gov
SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept donations [\$300,000.00] from the Wilbur
May Foundation retroactive to date of receipt: \$200,000.00 restricted for
Fiscal Year (FY) 27 general operating support of the Wilbur D. May
Center, excluding all County overhead; and \$100,000.00 restricted to
support FY27 temporary exhibits at the Wilbur D. May Museum.
(Commission District 3.) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Accept donations in the amount of \$300,000.00 from the Wilbur D. May Foundation: \$200,000.00 restricted for FY27 general operating support and \$100,000.00 for temporary museum exhibits retroactive to date of receipt.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Fiscal Sustainability: Long-term sustainability.

PREVIOUS ACTION

Support in the form of cash donations has been provided by the Wilbur D. May Foundation and accepted by the Board of County Commissioners (Board) annually since FY84.

BACKGROUND

Since FY84, the Wilbur May Foundation has generously donated sizable amounts of cash to Washoe County to subsidize Wilbur D. May Center operations and maintenance at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park in addition to site and programming improvements.

The contract between the Foundation and Washoe County contains a commitment to donate a total of \$200,000.00 each year to support operations at the May Center. Beginning FY04, the Foundation began providing an additional \$50,000.00 annually to bring high quality educational exhibits to the May Museum. Exhibit funding was increased to \$100,000.00 in FY08. In FY16, the Foundation made a three-year commitment to provide \$20,000.00 per year funding to support staff retention in the

AGENDA ITEM # _____

Museum. The \$20,000.00 donation for the Museum staff support continued in FY19, FY20, FY21 and FY22, ending in FY23 as the position was vacant.

FISCAL IMPACT

All donations have been deposited in the “Wilbur D. May Museum Building Fund,” an independent account maintained by the Treasurer’s Office. The FY27 budget for the May Center includes this donation; \$200,000.00 of the total donation is restricted to the May Museum (640200) and \$100,000.00 for the May Arboretum (640300); Fund 2064.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept donations [\$300,000.00] from the Wilbur May Foundation retroactive to date of receipt: \$200,000.00 restricted for FY27 general operating support of the Wilbur D. May Center, excluding all County overhead; and \$100,000.00 restricted to support FY27 temporary exhibits at the Wilbur D. May Museum.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff’s recommendation, a possible motion would be: “Move to accept donations [\$300,000.00] from the Wilbur May Foundation retroactive to date of receipt: \$200,000.00 restricted for FY27 general operating support of the Wilbur D. May Center, excluding all County overhead; and \$100,000.00 restricted to support FY27 temporary exhibits at the Wilbur D. May Museum.”